

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A lead-free solder consisting essentially of:

at least one selected from 0.01 to 0.2% by weight of Mn and 0.01 to 0.2% of Cr;

at least one selected from 0.5 to 9% by weight of Ag and 0.5 to 5% by weight of Sb; and

90.5% by weight or more of Sn.

2. (Original) A lead-free solder according to claim 1 consisting essentially of 0.05 to 0.1% by weight of Cr;

at least one selected from 3 to 5% by weight of Ag and 0.5 to 5% by weight of Sb; and

90.5% by weight of more of Sn.

3. (Original) A lead-free solder according to claim 2 containing only one member of each of said groups.

4. (Currently amended) A lead-free solder according to claims 3 1 wherein only one member of each of said groups.

5. (Original) A soldered article comprising an article containing a transition metal conductor and being joined through a solder, said transition metal conductor being liable to spread in molten Sn, wherein said solder is a lead free solder according to claim 1.

6. (Original) A soldered article according to claim 5, wherein said transition metal conductor comprises at least one selected from elementary substances or alloys thereof of the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Ni, Au, Pd, Pt and Zn.

7. (Previously presented) A lead-free solder according to claim 1 containing Mn.

8. (Previously presented) A lead-free solder according to claim 1 containing Sb.

9. (Currently amended) A lead-free solder according to claim 1 having a soldering temperature of 250°C to 350°C or less.

10. (Previously presented) A soldered article according to claim 9, wherein said transition metal conductor comprises at least one selected from elementary substances or alloys thereof of the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Ni, Au, Pd, Pt and Zn.

11. (Previously presented) A soldered article comprising an article containing a transition metal conductor and being joined through a solder, said transition metal conductor being liable to spread in molten Sn, wherein said solder is a lead free solder according to claim 9.

12. (Previously presented) A soldered article comprising an article containing a transition metal conductor and being joined through a solder, said transition metal conductor being liable to spread in molten Sn, wherein said solder is a lead free solder according to claim 8.

13. (Previously presented) A soldered article comprising an article containing a transition metal conductor and being joined through a solder, said transition metal conductor being liable to spread in molten Sn, wherein said solder is a lead free solder according to claim 7.

14. (Previously presented) A soldered article comprising an article containing a transition metal conductor and being joined through a solder, said transition metal conductor being liable to spread in molten Sn, wherein said solder is a lead free solder according to claim 2.

15. (Previously presented) A soldered article according to claim 14, wherein said transition metal conductor comprises at least one selected from elementary substances or alloys thereof of the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Ni, Au, Pd, Pt and Zn.